S. No.	Description of items
34.	Phthalic (Raw materials for synthetic resin)
35.	Citric acid
36.	Lactic acid
37.	Saccharine
38.	Aluminium powder and paste
39.	Cash registers incorporating calculating devices
40.	Duplicating machines
41.	Bidi leaves
42.	Onions.

Illegal trade across Indo-Pak border

136. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the volume of illegal trade across the Indo-Pak border and the smuggling activities between the two countries during the last three years, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) how far the recent trade agreement signed between the two countries is likely to curb such activities?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Smuggling being a clandestine activity, no reasonable estimate of the extent of smuggling across the Indo-Pakistan border is feasible.

(b) It is expected that as the trade between the two countries increase and restrictions on trading between private parties of two countries are removed, smuggling on the Indo-Pak border would come down.

Withdrawal of voluntary price control on Vanaspati

137. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:
SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:
DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for the withdrawal of voluntary control on the prices of Vanaspati and whether it will lead to higher prices;

(b) whether prices have gone up as a result thereof;

(c) how do Government propose to keep a watch over its price to ensure adequate availability of Vanaspati at reasonable rates;

(d) whether a code of conduct for the new pattern of pricing and distribution of Vanaspati has been evolved by the Vanaspati Manufacturers' Association; and

(e) if not, what other mechanism has been evolved by Government to protect the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) For minuimising controls and keeping in view the satisfactory availability and reasonable price of vanaspati, the voluntary price agreement was withdrawn in January, 1986.

(b) The prices of vanaspati are, by and large, ruling at a reasonable level. Due to reduction in the percentage incorporation of imported oils and consequent increase in the prices of indigenous oils, a few brands of vanaspati are selling at price slightly higher than those ruling at the time of discontinuance of price agreement.

(c) A watch is being kept at market price of vanaspati through officials of the Director of Vanaspati, Vegetable Oils and